

**OFFICE OF CENTRAL INSPECTION
CITY OF WICHITA**

POLICY STATEMENT/INTERPRETATION

DATE: March 28, 1996
SUBJECT: Drinking Fountains

CODE
SECTION(S) : ADA Sec. 4.1.3

QUESTION: When only one drinking fountain is required per UBC, must a second fountain or hi-lo fountain be installed to accommodate both people in wheelchairs and people who have difficulty bending or stooping?

ANSWER: ADA states that people with both types of disabilities must be accommodated, and this can be accomplished by: installation of a hi-lo fountain; installation of two fountains at heights accommodating both disabilities; providing a fountain at accessible height and a water cooler or; such other means as would achieve the required accessibility for each group on each floor.

So as not to require small offices and businesses undue hardship and expense, OCI will not require installation of an additional fountain or a hi-lo fountain when only one fountain is required per UBC Table A-29-A; which is defined as those occupancies with occupant loads (not design loads) between 30 and 150. When only one drinking fountain is required by UBC, a wheelchair accessible fountain complying with ADA 4.15 shall be installed and a cup dispenser shall be installed adjacent to the fountain to accommodate individuals with bending and stooping problems. Occupant loads over 150 shall be required to install a hi-lo fountain or two fountains at the required heights to accommodate both disabilities.

WRITTEN BY: Mary Lynn Jenkins (as proposed by the ADA focus group)
APPROVAL: Kurt Schroeder, Superintendent of Central inspection